PATENT
Attorney Docket No. 60117.000007

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re Patent Application of:

Jens PETERSEN, et al.

Serial No.: 09/938,670

Examiner: To Be Assigned Filed: August 27, 2001

For: POLYACRYLAMIDE HYDROGEL AND ITS USE AS AN ENDOPROSTHESIS

SECOND PRELIMINARY AMENDMENT

Under Secretary of Commerce for Intellectual Property and Director of the United States Patent and Trademark Office Washington, D.C. 20231

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Sir:

TECHNOLOGY CENTER R3700

Prior to the examination of the above-identified patent application, please amend the application as follows:

IN THE SPECIFICATION:

Please amend the specification as follows:

I. On Page 6, lines 10-14, please delete the paragraph and replace it with the following replacement paragraph:

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These rheological features are due in part to the degree of cross-linking and to the degree of swelling of the hydrogel. The hydrogel may be characterised in that the cross-linked polyacrylamide is cross-linked to such a degree so as to have an efficient cross-linking density of about 0.2 to 0.5%, preferably about 0.25 to 0.4%.

II. On page 6, lines 31-35, please deléte the paragraph and replace it with the following replacement paragraph:

As stated, in all aspects of the invention wherein the hydrogel comprises less than 3.5% polyacrylamide by weight, based on the total weight of the hydrogel, the 12/20/2002 NMCHANNI 00000102 09938670

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